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| <p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF MAILING<br/>37 C.F.R. § 1.8</p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date below:</p> <p>March 30, 2004<br/>Date</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><br/>David D. Bahler</p> |
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**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:  
Marc Mezard  
Riccardo Zecchina

Group Art Unit: 2876

Serial No.: 10/606,275

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: June 25, 2003

Atty. Dkt. No.: CHEP:008US

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
RESOLUTION OF PROBLEMS USING  
CONSTRAINED DISCRETE  
VARIABLES

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

Please consider the following amendments prior to examination of the above-captioned application. Should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Deposit Account No. 50-1212/CHEP:008US/DDB. Please date stamp and return the enclosed postcard as evidence of receipt of this document.

Please amend this application as follows:

25398946.1

04/14/2004 JARTIS 00000002 501212 10606275  
01 FC:1201 86.00 BA  
02 FC:1202 435.00 BA